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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Replacement of Part 90 by Part 88)
to Revise the Private Land Mobile)
Radio Services and Modify the)
Policies Governing Them)
)
and)
)
Examination of Exclusivity and)
Frequency Assignment Policies of)
the Private Land Mobile Services)

PR Docket No. 92-235

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To: The Commission

REPLY TO COMMENTS ON PETITION FOR PARTIAL RECONSIDERATION
AND CLARIFICATION

The Alarm Industry Communications Committee (AICC) of the Central Station Alarm Association, by its attorney and pursuant to Rule Section 1.429, hereby submits its reply in response to comments filed regarding AICC's May 19, 1997 Petition for Partial Reconsideration and Clarification of the Second Report and Order (SR&O) in PR Docket No. 92-235 regarding consolidation of the various radio services into two pools.

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. ("APCO") expresses concern that the central station alarm frequencies should not be part of the Public Safety Pool, and that alarm services "should not be permitted unfettered access to scarce 'Public Safety Pool' channels." June 19, 1997 APCO comments at pp. 2-3. AICC wishes to take this opportunity

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to clarify that it does not seek unrestricted expansion of the Public Safety Pool, and by no means wishes to gain access to the scarce public safety spectrum. AICC indicated only that it wished to be included in any revised Public Safety Pool created as a result of the Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC) recommendation that non-governmental safety activities be recognized and protected. AICC would imagine that these non-governmental safety activities would be a separate part of the Public Safety Pool, and that such entities would not have access to the spectrum reserved for critical governmental safety functions.

APCO recognizes this aspect of the PSWAC recommendations, and agrees that alarm operations qualify as the sort of non-governmental safety operations that should be protected under the PSWAC guidelines. APCO Comments at p. 2. However, APCO appears to believe that alarm operations qualify as "public service" providers rather than "public safety support" providers under the PSWAC criteria. AICC believes that alarm operations fall somewhere in between. While alarm systems are not normally authorized by a governmental authority, these systems do not merely "furnish, maintain and protect the nation's basic infrastructures which are required to promote the public's safety and welfare." In addition to providing infrastructure, the alarm industry provides direct protection services which work hand-in-hand with governmental authorities to stop crimes in progress, prevent future crimes, and detect fires and other hazardous conditions.

In any event, AICC seeks only protection for the central station alarm frequencies, and not access to Public Safety Pool channels. If "public service" status will afford such protection, this would be a satisfactory result. Therefore, AICC does not believe that its proposal is at odds with APCO's concerns.

AICC also requested that its parent organization, the Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA), be granted status as the exclusive coordinator for central station alarm frequencies. The Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA) takes issue with this request, arguing that there is nothing unique about alarm or any other radio operations that require a single coordinator; and that "every radio service has a public safety-related component." PCIA comments at pp. 6-7. Of course, the position that any coordinator can coordinate all radio services is a self-serving one for PCIA. However, AICC has been unable to find any document in which PCIA has refuted AICC's showing that the central station alarm frequencies are indeed unique, since (1) they are used primarily for fixed signaling, which is a configuration using higher antennas than other UHF offset systems; (2) these frequencies have been afforded continued eligibility restrictions by the Commission, in recognition of their important and unique function; and (3) these channels are used for important public safety purposes. Therefore, designation of CSAA as the exclusive coordinator is justified, due to the familiarity of CSAA with alarm operations, and the need for enforcement of the eligibility restriction on these channels. In this regard, PCIA is correct in stating that every

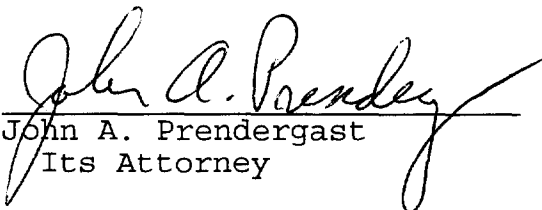
radio service has a safety related component. However, the alarm industry uses radio to relay alarm signals created by burglaries, bank robberies, fires, and medical emergencies; and to dispatch a response to these emergencies. Virtually every use of alarm frequencies serve such functions. Few radio services make direct and primary use of their frequencies for such safety purposes. Other radio services are used primarily for business or internal purposes, and are only incidentally concerned with the relay of emergency information.

VI. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the record supports AICC's showing that the Commission should modify the rules adopted in its SR&O in the manner described in AICC's May 19, 1997 Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

**Alarm Industry Communications
Committee**

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Dated: June 30, 1997

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I am an employee with the law firm of Blooston, Mordkofsky, Jackson & Dickens, and that on this 30th day of June, 1997. I caused to be mailed via first class United States mail, postage prepaid, a copy of the foregoing "Reply to Comments on Petition for Partial Reconsideration and Clarification" to the following:

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